THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) 141 Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) have been submitted by Government of Maharashtra for central assistance under Urban Infrastructure and Governance (UIG) component of JNNURM to Ministry of Urban Development.

(b) 51 DPRs have been approved under UIG component of JNNURM and their approved cost is Rs. 7528.86 crore.

Metro Rail at Kochi

1543. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal for constructing a Metro Rail at Kochi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether necessary approval has been given to the project;

(d) if so, the time by when the work on the project is expected to begin; and

(e) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) and (b) The Government of Kerala, based on a Detailed Project Report (DPR) prepared by Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) for setting up of Metro in Kochi, has submitted a proposal seeking "in principle" approval of Govt. of India for the implementation of the project through a Joint Venture Special Purpose Vehicle of Government of India and State Government.

The proposed alignment is from Always to Petta (Tripunithura) 25.3 Kms. (fully elevated). The estimated completion cost is Rs. 3084 cr. and period of completion is 4 years. They have also proposed to entrust the work to DMRC itself.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

Gandhinagar and Porbunder under JNNURM

1544. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all the capital cities of the States are included in the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM);

(b) whether the State Government of Gujarat has requested Central Government to include Gandhinagar and also Porbunder city under JNNURM being the birth place of Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the state of Gujarat has been given only Rs. 300 crores under JNNURM; and

(d) if so, whether Government has any proposal to enhance the limit of this allocation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) Yes, Sir. The only exception, however, is Gandhinagar as

Ahmedabad has already been covered.

(b) Yes, Sir. Such a request has been made. However, Gandhinagar and Porbunder can avail funds through Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns (UIDSSMT).

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The indicative allocation for Gujarat under JNNURM for seven year Mission period (2005-12) is Rs. 2944.37 crore.

Development of Mumbai

1545. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Centre is keen on transforming Mumbai into India's destination city and is ready to fund development projects, but wants to overhaul the city's physical and social infrastructure;

(b) if so, whether Mumbai's development is high on the Centre's agenda and has identified seven thrust areas where infrastructure lapses need to be plugged on a priroity basis;

(c) if so, whether any concrete steps and measures Government has considered in this regard; and

(d) if so, by when these measures are to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) to (d) Mumbai is one of the cities covered under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) launched on 3rd December, 2005 with the objective for reforms driven, fast track, planned development of identified cities with focus on efficiency in urban infrastructure/service delivery mechanisms, community participation and accountability of Urban Local Bodies (ULBs)/ Parastatals towards citizens. Mumbai has so far been allocated a substantial amount as Additional Central Assistance under the Mission. So far 15 projects related to improvement of urban infrastructure have been approved under Sub-Mission on Urban Infrastructure and Governance and 7 Projects under Sub-Mission on Basic Services to Urban Poor under JNNURM. Details are given in Statement. Apart from this, Brihan Mumbai Storm Water Drainage Project (BRIMSTOWARD) for improving storm water drainage system in Municipal Corporation of Brihan Mumbai has also been approved at an estimated cost of Rs. 1200.5 crore.

Mumbai has also committed to undertake reforms mandated under the JNNURM. These include E-Governance, Property Tax reforms, Repeal of Urban Land Ceiling & Regulation Act (ULCRA), Stamp duty rationalization to 5%, Enactment of Community Participation Law etc.